



The Blurb



*Newsletter of The Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club
Public Service Since 1949*

Volume 74 Number 03

www.phil-mont.org

Hamcation 2023!!!

Bill & Rich's Big Adventure - Pics pg. 11

Real World Battery Powered Mobile and Portable
Operation - Rich AA3RC, pg 10

Puzzle Time! - Woody - K3YV pg 12

The Radio Amateur's Code

The Radio Amateur is:

CONSIDERATE... They never knowingly operate in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.

LOYAL... They offer loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local clubs, the IARU Radio Society in their country, through which Amateur Radio in their country is represented nationally and internationally.

PROGRESSIVE... They keep their station up to date. It is well-built and efficient. Their operating practice is above reproach.

FRIENDLY... They operate slowly and patiently when requested; offer friendly advice and counsel to beginners; kind assistance, cooperation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the marks of the amateur spirit.

BALANCED... Radio is a hobby, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.

PATRIOTIC... Their station and skills are always ready for service to country and community.

- adapted from the original Amateur's Code, written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA, in 1928

Get the Net!

There's no ham radio without YOU!

Get on the air and share! Operate, cooperate, & celebrate ham radio!

Phil-Mont's Drive Time Net

*Join us on the air every
Monday to Friday 1700
to 1800 EDT on:*

- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)
- [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR 47970](#)

March Sunday Net Control Schedule

03/05/23 W3AFV

03/12/23 KB3SJS

03/19/23 W3UP

03/26/23 WA3GM

CLUB REPEATERS

VHF: 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)

Bucks County and North PL 88.5
(147.030)

UHF: 444.80 MHz Yaesu System
Fusion WiresX

[ECHOLINK W3QV-R](#) &

[ALLSTAR 47970](#)

[EMAIL REPEATER COMMITTEE](#)

CQ! CQ! CQ!



**Calling CQ for New
Net Control
Operators!**

[Click Here and Sign Up To-
day! It's a Fun Way to Meet
Our Members!](#)

Sunday Morning Nets

*Three Nets on three
bands, all in a Row! Tune
in on any or all for a
Sunday morning 'Hello!'*

0930 EDT:

- 147.030 MHz (+offset 91.5 PL)
- Bucks County and North PL 88.5 (147.030)
- 2m, [Echolink W3QV-R](#)
- [ALLSTAR 47970](#)

1000 EDT:

75 meter Net (3.993
MHz LSB +/-QRM)

1030 EDT:

10 meter Net (28.393
MHz USB +/-QRM)

Club Business

NEXT GENERAL CLUB MEETING:

**Wednesday
March 8th**

IN PERSON *ONLY*

At [Giant Supermarket 315 York Rd.](#)

[Willow Grove, PA 19090](#)

7PM Start - (6PM Yack & Snack)

This month's Prezo:

Newbie Night
(3 years or less)

MARCH BIRTHDAYS

KT3H Paul - Mar 01

KC3VDL Emmanoah Mar 01

K3FZT Steve Mar 9

KC3NVS James Mar 29

*Want your Birthday read on
the Net? Update your info at
hamclubonline.com*

New Club Members

Justin Cray - W1JGC - Extra

Phil-Mont Membership Stats February 2023

Member Statistics:

Active Members	151
Expiring Soon Members	32

If you are unsure, log into HamClubOnline and check and renew OR ASK!

THERE ARE 36 that should renew BEFORE Feb 28th or as per the bylaws will be removed from the Club roster.

Member Types Statistics: (Active Members)

Additional Family Member (EACH)	7
Honorary	2
REGULAR Membership	161
Student Membership	2
Total	173

Winter Field Day 2023

Certificate of Participation

presented to Amateur Radio Station

W3AA

for their active and invaluable participation during the 2023 Winter Field Day Event. The WFDA, gratefully thanks you for your effort and recognizes your dedication to improving your operating skills, which may be crucial during an emergency event.

Contacts Logged: 330



We passionately believe that Ham radio operators should practice portable emergency communications in winter environments as the potential for freezing temperatures, snow, ice, and other hazards present unique operational concerns. WFD is formatted to help increase your level of preparedness for disasters and improve your operational skills in subpar conditions.

Marvin Turner

Marvin Turner, President
Winter Field Day Association

Philadelphia



ARES

The Amateur Radio Emergency Service are trained licensed amateur radio operators providing radio communications as a public service in disaster situations. All licensed operators are welcome to join. To get started fill out this [ARES Registration form](#) and [submit it to Cliff Hotchkiss](#) (KC3PGT), the Philadelphia Emergency Coordinator.

**Join the A.R.E.S.
Training Net**

**Every Sunday
evening at 2100 (9:00
PM)**

147.030 MHz

The Prez Sez...

Hello Phil-Mont,

Did you see the poem our The Blurb Editor Dan wrote?

What a great start to the month of February.

How about our new member from 2 land? AA2SD, Scott and all of his POTA adventures.

Did you play the CQ WPX RTTY or the ARRL International DX contest (cw)?

DID YOU LOG like Greg KC3SMW and the gang showed us how to do it at the PMRC Radio Lab in December?
Did you complete your LoTW registration?

Did you get inspired at our General Meeting by the mix of the old and new technologies to recreate the comms on the Apollo mission?

Did you hear Steve when he said "It's a golden age for experimenting/learning. Cheap/free software, hardware, tools, test equipment."?

We completed and submitted the Winter Field Day Event logs for W3AA.

Thanks to K3NOP Charlie for putting this all together for the club. Thanks to all that came out to the event and played! Thanks to all who played from home and hopefully submitted logs listing W3AA — Phil-Mont Mobile Radio Club as their team.

Have you been following the DENn and the recent break from fldigi into the world of packet? Will I be seeing you pinging APRS on my radio? Will I be reading your messages on the BBS? Do you know what any of this means?

Well...that's all in the books now.

Coming up. MORE RADIO GOODNESS.

Our March General Meeting Presentation will be our first in the Rookie Roundup Series.

Folks licensed less than 3 years or who have never presented to US before will give presentations.

A M A T E U R Radio is our hobby. THERE ARE NO GURUS. Let's hear from the new folks, with fresh eyes, and see how they see things.....

Let me start by saying HOW EXCITED I was that all of the folks that I asked to present SAID YES. THEY WANT to share their journeys with us. We talk a good game about "ELMERING". What is "elmering"? Well, it's the ham term for mentoring. The best experience is full duplex. Give and take. Not all one way....experienced TELLING

The Prez Sez...

the new folks without listening or allowing the new folks (and the experienced if they are doing it right) to flesh out their thoughts and TRY SOME THINGS.

“WHAT IF?” The perfect beginning to a journey!

THERE IS NO RIGHT OR WRONG way or TIME for this HOBBY JOURNEY. Everyone brings themselves into it. Chaotic or contemplative.

To start our Journey in March will be KC3SSG, Dil and his journey with his VNA and some wire.

Our next General Meeting will be March 8th at the Giant in Willow Grove. All the info is on the website.

Dil will be telling us how he designed and implemented

THE DIL-TA loop Antenna that he is using for HF.

Following that will be our first

2023 PMRC Radio Labs on Saturday March 18th

from 10am to 2:00 pm also at the Giant in Willow Grove.

All of the info for the lab and our special guest Lab Instructor Bob WA2POW is on the website. Check it out because a kit and some supplies are needed.

Hope you have the opportunity to join us on our journeys, or take us along with you on yours.

EVERY SINGLE MINUTE remember, this is YOUR HOBBY, YOUR Club, YOUR repeaters. USE them. MONITOR them. BE A REPEATER GREETER. Answer calls when you can. Let's try to leave NO CALL UNANSWERED.

PLAY*BREAK*LEARN

jim fisher

AJ3DI

www.aj3di.com

HamshackHotline ext: 14423

"Do, or do not. There is no 'try.'"

-- Jedi Master Yoda

PMRC Scholarships for 2023

Claude H. Haring, Jr., W3IIM Memorial Scholarship \$1,000.00

By formal resolution adopted by our board on October 10, 2001, PMRC established Scholarship Fund and authorized the first annual award of the Claude H. Haring, Jr., W3IIM, Memorial Scholarship.

Bryan Hoch N3VJE Memorial Scholarship \$1,000.00

Bryan Hoch N3VJE Age 33 Died of brain Cancer summer 2015. Fought the fight for 2+ years. Graduate of Central High School and Community College of Philadelphia. Employed by Urban Outfitters at Corporate Hq in Philadelphia Navy Yard. Veteran of MS150 operations while in High School. Survived by his Wife Kate and a Score of relatives including his Dad Stephen Hoch WU3I.

Richard Moll W3RM Scholarship \$1,000.00

There are hams who eat and breathe amateur radio, but Dick Moll went far beyond the confines of the hobby as a well-rounded, public-spirited man who not only chalked up a remarkable record of service and achievement as a ham, but also as an exemplary human being dedicated to helping people in need.

Richard DeVirgiliis ND3B \$1,000.00

Former Blurb Editor until his passing in March 2021.

APPLY ONLINE

Students interested in applying for any ham radio scholarship can visit [Foundation for Amateur Radio website](#) for further information regarding the available scholarships, eligibility rules and the application.

Phil-Mont is recognized by the IRS as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, and all contributions to the the PMRC Scholarship Fund are deductible by the donor for federal income tax purposes.

Contributions made payable to PMRC, Inc. may be sent directly to Phil-Mont at PO Box 404 Warminster PA 18974.

Saleable ham equipment can also be contributed. Contact PhilMont Board about equipment contributions. Every contribution will be acknowledged by an IRS letter for tax accounting purposes.

Real World Battery Powered Mobile and Portable Operation

By Richard Roth, AA3RC

With field day, POTA, OctPotaFest, and the go-box craze, there is plenty of discussion at meetings and on the repeater about radios, batteries, antennas and the boxes to carry them in. Now if you have come to this article looking for the analysis of the battery and current and draw and other analysis-paralysis information, you've come to the wrong place. This is about just connecting the stuff, seeing what happens and playing radio.

There seems to be a lot of worry and discussion when it comes to battery life, transmitting power output and how long you can operate on any given size battery. Again, I did not collect any data or take any measurements during this journey. I'm just going to share the experiences with the equipment that I used over the last few months. As many of you know, I have been operating mobile HF with a Yaesu FT-891 and ATAS-120A on a mag mount on top of my car for some time. Many of you have heard me talk about how well these two things work. They work better than they should, better than I could have ever imagined and I am still mad at myself for not doing HF mobile many years earlier. But I got stuck in the analysis-paralysis thinking that my vehicle had to be ground strap bonded and I had to have an extravagant and intricate mount for an HF antenna to work on a vehicle and there wouldn't be enough power to operate at 100 watts. I am glad I just decided to give this a try and do a proof-of-concept last summer without going too crazy. It has worked better than I could have ever imagined, and I've never looked back. The next step was POTA and portable operations. With OctPOTAFest looming, it was time to gather up a small tuner and some wire antennas to try along with a battery.



So, the story of what I'm trying to communicate here actually starts at the October Philmont Pota event. As an aside, I am not a believer and QRP. I don't mean to offend anybody who has an Icom 705 or Xiegu rig or any of the other smaller power output radios, but I believe that life is too short for QRP. I run all my radios with the transmitter power turned up to 11. No one is checking your power output. Turn it up and make the contact. That is the one important data point for this story, full power, 100W the entire time.

I started with a fully charged P04Power 12V 50Ah LifeP04 Battery (<https://www.gigaparts.com/p04power-12v-50ah-lifep04-battery.html>). No battery box, meters (there is a voltage and % capacity display built into the top of this battery), or anything other than a homemade power pole connection wire. The battery plus the trusty 891, a small manual tuner and an end-fed 40-10 antenna. I had a quick and successful activation at OctPOTAFest; the simple setup worked better than I ever expected. After that October event I did a POTA activation with the same setup in French Creek Park where I packed all the stuff onto my motorcycle. I never did recharge the battery. With winter, holidays and life events happening, I stuck the battery in the back seat of my car, remounted the radio and continued on with my regular mobile operation, working all over the country and the world on my evening commute; it amazes me every single time how well it works.

Fast forward to February 2023 and preparations for the trip to HamCation with Bill, W3AOK. We were taking his truck and camper so I said we will just put the 891 and the screwdriver antenna/mag-mount on your truck. At that time power had not been rigged in his truck to plug the 891 in, so we decided to just bring battery and see how it went. I grabbed the battery out of the back of the car, brought all the stuff over to Bill's truck and hooked it all up. I was about to charge the battery up when I checked the meter and saw that even after the October event with a successful activation, another POTA activation, sitting in my car through numerous cold snaps and not being used for over three months the meter said the battery had 96% capacity which was certainly surprising. I figured if needed we could charge it in our travels but wanted to see just how long this battery would last.



One of us was on the radio regularly during the nearly 30 hours we spent in the truck going down and back to HamCation. We checked into the RV net, ECARS, South CARS, the Mobile Maritime Net and any other net we could find whilst spinning the dial on 40, 20, 17 and 10 meters. The reach of this simple setup was truly amazing. We worked Oregon, California, Alabama, Arkansas, Georgia, Florida, North Carolina, South Carolina, Maine, New Hampshire, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Iowa, Kentucky, Wisconsin, Minnesota, Texas and those are just the states that I can remember off the top of my head. Yes, it was all mobile, moving on the highway, on battery power, and 100 watts out at all times. In addition, I hunted no less than 14 parks according to my POTA hunter log and Bill got a bunch of parks too. Think of that duty cycle trying to break through the pileups! The rig got through every time except for one DX island where we just gave up trying to get through the pileup. Given that we were mobile, I totally forgot we were running on battery power and stopped checking it after day one because it just kept on going and going and going and going...well you remember the commercial. So, after all those contacts and conversations on the air and the long ride home, I pulled the rig out and brought it inside. Guess what the battery capacity was? 12.7V and 27%. Absolutely incredible; plenty left in the tank. Good thing, because I forgot to bring the charger anyway.



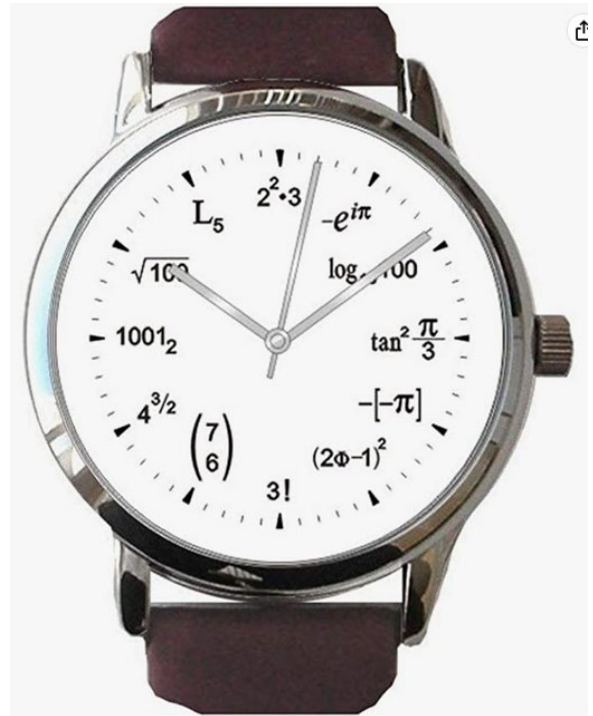
The moral of the story is that the battery will last longer than your voice probably will and don't worry about whether it will work or not, just try it. Buy the biggest battery you can and are willing to carry. That should be the extent of the analysis. You might find out that it works better than it ever should and better than you ever expected. I wish I had done mobile/portable HF long ago, but now know how much fun and satisfying it can be. No analysis-paralysis required. Just play radio.♦

It's Puzzle Time

By Woody – K3YV

Puzzles are fun. But most puzzles are about words. Hams rarely have an opportunity to try their technical skills. I came across this watch that makes a nice puzzle. The hour numbers are mathematical expressions. Each of the twelve numbers are represented by a mathematical expression that equals that number. Some are easy, but some are a little harder.

Test your math knowledge and explain how each hour number is calculated. Each numeral is exact without rounding off. And yes, the watch hands are there on purpose, just to make it a little harder. How many can you explain? (email me if you need a hint k3yv@arrl.net – Explanations will be published next month.)



Won't You Join Us...

in ***The DENn!***

Phil-Mont's *Digital Education Net for newbies!*

Tuesday Evenings @8:00pm

W3QV Repeater: 147.030 MHz + 91.5
Allstar Node: 47970

Don't let the name fool you!

All are welcomed to join us and play. It doesn't matter if you are new to Ham Radio, new to digital modes, or are an already experienced ham and digital operator.

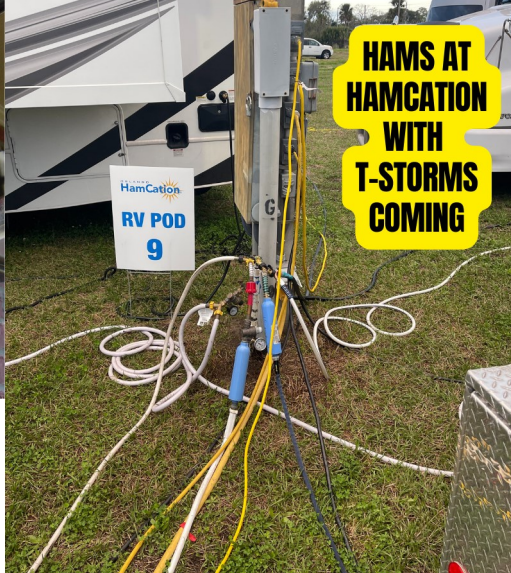
We are here to play, learn, and test our equipment.

With the digital modes if you can do it on the repeater you can do it pretty much everywhere, *including HF.*

*So come on out, test your setup, and **HAVE SOME FUN!***

NET CONTROLS KC3SMW Greg NY3J Ron

Hamcation 2023



HAMS AT HOME







WINTERHEAT

AMATEUR RADIO SIMPLEX EVENT

2023 Results

We Came. We Saw.

We Simplexed.

W3QV PHIL MONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB INC -

27 members - 6,821 Contacts

#2 in Participants by state: PA with 121 players

#4 in Contacts by State: PA with 11,383

#52 in Overall Contacts: Jack KC3TIQ with 10,661(!)

From the PMRC Archive...

Here are some highlights from this month
in Blurb history, March 1993...

The BLURB
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The PREZ SEZ

Ed Masarsky, KB3IV

Has it ever occurred to you that when your working the "03" repeater, or any repeater for that matter, you are being heard over literally thousands of square miles? Not only by other amateurs, but by people listening to the amateur frequencies, just for the fun of it, or because they may be striving for a ham ticket of their own.

It is important to consider that what these people hear can have an effect on the repeater you are working, and ham radio in general. People will form opinions as they listen to



The Musser Choices Forum

your transmissions. If they are prospective hams they may pattern themselves after the operation they hear, good or bad.

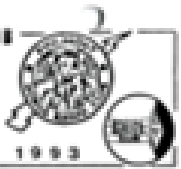
Let's keep in mind that we have a big audience out there, and make the best impression you can as a concerned amateur.

Just a reminder, we will be holding our March meeting in Choices Forum again: This new location is working out great. Don't come by yourself bring a friend!

PHILMONT MOBILE RADIO CLUB
W3003-W3100-W3101

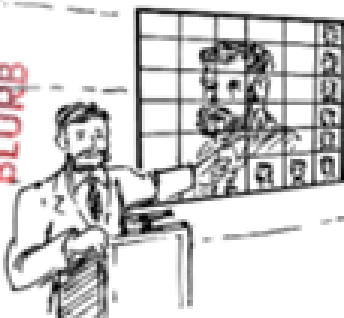
BLURB

March 1993



phil-mont's NEW MEETING ROOM...

LAST BLURB



THE CHOICES FORUM

A MUST, TO SEE!

March

Sami KATY KORNER
SHADES OF EDW. G.
BOB.K3KUD
HAS TAKEN OVER
THE BUDGET/AUDIT
COMMITTEE
VACATED BY JINNY
NOW TREASURER



AN RIGHT YOU GUYS!!
I GOT DA CHAIR SEE!
ALL DONT GIMME NO...

* KUD DONT SMOKE CIGARETTS!

March

Sami CORNER
ONE MORE TIME
ON THE JOB OR NOT...
STEVE WU3I
CHECKS IN
ON THE SUNDAY
2 MTR NET



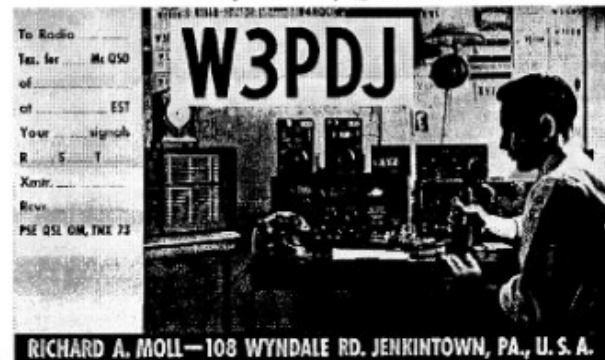
YEAH, STEVE WU3I CHECKING IN

The BLURB
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Ol' Timers' Corner—circa 1949

Send us your early QSL cards!

To Radio
Yes, for Me QSO
of
of EST
Your signals
R S Y
Xenix
Rev.
PSE QSL QM, TNE 73



RICHARD A. MOLL—108 WYNDALE RD. JENKINTOWN, PA., U. S. A.

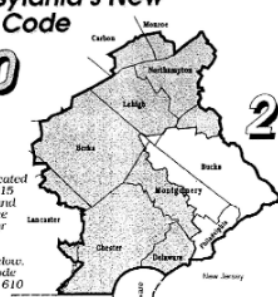
* Equipment from top left to right: BC457-converted to 80m CW (\$4.95); BC459-40m CW (\$4.95); McMurdo-Silver model 701 10m AM kit transmitter;(LL) Hallicrafters SX-25 "Super Defiant" receiver; BC348R receiver (\$35). Note dial-less telephone. W3RM

The BLURB
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Effective January 1994

Pennsylvania's New Area Code

610



215

If you are presently located within the 215 Area Code and the first three digits of your telephone number are listed below, your area code will become 610

2	403	544	623	668	734	783	837	870	904
2	409	508	630	669	740	780	838	882	902
2	484	603	636	670	749	791	945	950	964
4	687	693	631	678	745	750	947	951	965
5	497	505	840	881	754	790	852	880	966
5	498	506	842	882	756	796	853	886	967
7	489	582	644	583	758	797	856	916	970
9	523	533	645	557	759	798	857	921	971
4	521	584	647	586	760	799	858	928	974
8	522	586	648	589	767	814	861	929	975
9	524	588	649	590	768	827	863	932	982
1	525	589	650	591	770	821	865	933	983
9	526	591	651	592	774	825	866	935	987
8	527	593	655	603	775	826	867	939	989
1	531	594	656	604	776	827	868	940	992
4	532	595	659	605	777	828	869	941	993
9	534	599	664	606	778	832	872	942	
6	539	606	666	729	833	873	944		
6	543	612	667	730	834	874	946		

PHILMONT Mobile Radio Club, Inc. 1993

The Last Page



The Blurb wants to hear from **YOU!**

Got a hot lead on antenna design? Soldering up a special circuit? Digging some new DSP? Reminiscing about some retro receivers? Maybe you have some goodies for sale?

Click the big blue envelope
and tell us your tale!

PMRC Officers for 2023

EMAIL THE BOARD

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V. President: AA3RC Rich

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KC3SMW Greg (24)

N3PEG Peg(24)

N3ZP Phil(24)

Blurb Editor: *Daniel Wagaman - W4GMN*



Club Email List

The Blurb